



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/857,994	10/05/2001	John P. McKearn	CU-2561 RJS	4028

7590 01/13/2004

JAMES M. WARNER
ASSISTANT GENERAL COUNSEL
PHARMACIA CORPORATION/ GLOBAL PATENT DEPARTMENT
800 N. LINDBERGH BLVD.
ST. LOUIS, MO 63167

EXAMINER

HUI, SAN MING R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1617	

DATE MAILED: 01/13/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/857,994	MCKEARN ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	San-ming Hui	1617

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 14 October 2003.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 116 and 117 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) 118 is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 116-117 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

 * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

 a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____ .

2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ . 6) Other: _____ .

DETAILED ACTION

The instant application claims the benefits of provisional US application Serial 60/113,786, filed December 23, 1998. The instant application is also a 371 of PCT/US99/30670.

Claims 116-118 are pending for examination.

In view of the common assignee of the instant application and Roger et al., the outstanding rejections under 35 USC 103(a) are withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 116 and 117 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. In the instant case, the specification fails to provide information that would allow the skilled artisan to practice the instant invention without undue experimentation. Attention is directed to *In re Wands*, 8 USPQ2d 1400 (CAFC 1988) at 1404 where the court set forth the eight factors to consider when assessing if a disclosure would have required undue experimentation. Citing *Ex parte Forman*, 230 USPQ 546 (BdApls 1986) at 547 the court recited eight factors:

- 1) the quantity of experimentation necessary,
- 2) the amount of direction or guidance provided,
- 3) the presence of absence of working examples,
- 4) the nature of the invention,
- 5) the state of the prior art,
- 6) the relative skill of those in the art
- 7) the predictability of the art, and
- 8) the breadth of the claims.

The claims are very broad. In the instant specification, page 16, lines 3-11 discloses:

“The term “prevention” includes either preventing the onset of clinically evident neoplasia altogether or preventing the onset of a preclinically evident stage of neoplasia in individuals at risk. Also intended to be encompassed by this definition is the prevention of initiation for malignant cells or to arrest or reverse the progression of premalignant cells to malignant cells.” [emphasis added]

The instant claims are drawn to a method of preventing all preclinical stages of breast cancer, which include any undetectable stages of malignancy. The instant specification also fails to provide any guidance as to selecting the appropriate patient population. It is known in the art that various factors are involved in causing breast cancer in an individual. These factors include genetics, prolonged use of estrogen replacement, age, and environmental factors, such as diet (See Merck Manual, 16th ed., 1992, page 1815-1816). Without sufficient guidance, one of skilled in the art would be required to perform undue experimentation in order to practice the instant invention. Furthermore, the instant specification provides no working example of employing

integrin antagonist to prevent the development of breast cancer. The nature of the invention is to prevent breast cancer by employing the herein claimed integrin antagonist and tamoxifen together or optionally, further combine with radiation therapy. However, radiation exposure would actually increase risk of developing breast cancer (See Merck Manual, page 1816, last paragraph). It is not clear how or why one of skilled in the art would use radiation therapy on individual who is only at risk for having breast cancer and is otherwise healthy. Moreover, the current known treatment of breast cancer is limited to hormonal, surgical, radiation, and chemotherapy (See Merck Manual, particularly, page 1818 to 1821). There is no preventive treatment so far. It is clear from the evidence of Merck Manual that the ability to prevent breast cancer is highly unpredictable and has met with very little success. Applicants have not provided any convincing evidence that their claimed invention is indeed useful as preventive for breast cancer and have not provided sufficient guidance to allow one skilled in the art to practice the claimed invention without undue experimentation. In the absence of such guidance and evidence, the specification fails to provide an enabling disclosure.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

Claims 116 and 117 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The expression "a mammal in need of such ... prevention" in claims 116 and 117 renders the claims indefinite because it is unclear who would be encompassed by the claims and be considered as "mammal in need of such prevention", and thus, the metes and bounds of the claims are not defined.

Response to arguments

Applicant's arguments filed October 14, 2003 averring the prevention of reoccurrence of breast cancer in breast cancer patients with mastectomy is enabled and has been practiced in the field have been considered, but are not found persuasive. The term "prevention" is construed as "absolute prevention". Applicant is apparently referring postmastectomy prophylaxis as "prevention". Such recitation, in light of the disclosure of the instant specification, in the claims would encompass any female that is not having mastectomy or breast cancer. Moreover, the claims do not recite any preventive effective amount of the herein claimed compound being employed in the instant method.

Claim 118 is allowable over the cited prior art.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within

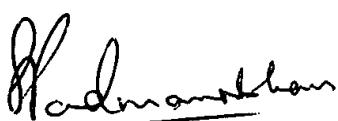
TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to San-ming Hui whose telephone number is (703) 305-1002. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon 9:00 to 1:00, Tu - Fri from 9:00 to 6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Sreeni Padmanabhan, PhD., can be reached on (703) 305-1877. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 872-9306.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1235.

San-ming Hui
Patent Examiner
Art Unit 1617


SREENI PADMANABHAN
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

1/12/04